

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 6, line 12, with the following rewritten paragraph:

Fig. 4 is a top view of the ice bag shown in Fig. 3 showing the fabric stretch wrap attached to the front wall and also showing a ~~zip-lock~~ ZIPLOCK®-type sealing mechanism; and

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 7, line 20, with the following rewritten paragraph:

The sealing mechanism of the therapeutic bag may be a ~~zip-lock~~ ZIPLOCK®-type closure seal, or other suitable resealable sealing mechanism. This ~~zip-lock~~ ZIPLOCK®-type closure seal is preferably attached to the interior containment pocket of the bag near the mouth of the chamber.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 10, line 3, with the following rewritten paragraph:

In one embodiment of the present invention, the closure mechanism is a ~~zip-lock~~ ZIPLOCK®-type closure seal that is joined to the inside surfaces of the two walls of material via heat sealing, gluing and/or bonding, or any other suitable joining method. The two walls of the material may be joined together along at least three of their respective edges via heat sealing, gluing, folding and/or bonding, or any other suitable joining method. The attachment mechanism may be attached to the therapeutic bag via heat sealing, gluing, bonding and/or stitching, or any other suitable attachment method.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 11, line 5, with the following rewritten paragraph:

An embodiment of a method of using a therapeutic bag of the present invention for treating injury and relieving associated pain comprises providing an ice bag that has a waterproof bag with a mouth and an interior containment pocket, a sealing mechanism, and an attachment mechanism. A cooling substance may be introduced into the interior containment pocket of the waterproof bag via the mouth of the waterproof bag. The waterproof bag may then be sealed closed with a sealing mechanism, such as a ~~zip-lock~~ ZIPLOCK®-type closure seal. The ice bag may then be positioned in its desired location on a person's body, on the area needing treatment. The ice bag may be positioned anywhere on a person's body, such as on their arms, wrists, legs, knees, ankles, torsos, head, neck, feet, hands, etc. Finally, the ice bag may be secured in place by an attachment mechanism, such as one or more pairs of tie strings or an attachment wrap. The tie strings should be long enough to be wrapped around a portion of a person's body and tied to secure the ice bag in position. The attachment wrap should be long enough to be wrapped around a portion of a person's body and fastened to secure the ice bag in position. The attachment wrap may be a stretchy woven elastic compression bandage that is fastened by a hook-and-loop type fastener, or other suitable fastening means.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 14, line 22, with the following rewritten paragraph:

The mouth 36 of bag 10 is sized such that it may be quickly and easily filled with ice or any other suitable cooling substance. The mouth 36 preferably utilizes a ~~zip-lock~~ ZIPLOCK®-type closure mechanism 38 for sealing bag 10 closed. The closing device 38 should not hinder filling by, for example, an ice machine, and should preferably not be detached from the bag 10 during storage or use. The closing device 38 may be heat-sealed to the inner surfaces of the first wall 12 and the second wall 14. This may be accomplished using suitable sealing and tie-dispensing equipment.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 15, line 6, with the following rewritten paragraph:

Referring now to Fig. 5, each wall 12, 14 of the multi-layer bag 10 of the present invention may be constructed by, for example, laminating a non-woven polypropylene layer 52 to a layer of nylon 54, using poly extrusion or an adhesive. This nylon layer 54 may, in turn, be laminated to a layer of, for example, white linear low-density polyethylene 56, again using poly extrusion or an adhesive. These walls 12, 14 may then be brought together, with their polyethylene layers 56 facing one another to form the inside surface of the bag, with the ~~zip-lock~~ ZIPLOCK®-type material 38 disposed between the walls 12, 14, and appropriate portions of two or three edges of each wall 12, 14, may then be heat sealed together. Appropriate portions of the ~~zip-lock~~ ZIPLOCK®-type material 38 are preferably simultaneously heat sealed to the inside surfaces of each wall 12, 14. The desired attachment mechanism may then be attached to the ice bag 10. For example, tieable straps 22a, 22b may be attached to ice bag 10, as shown in Fig. 2, via heat sealing, gluing, adhesives, sewing, or any other suitable technique. Alternatively, wrap 24 may be stitched 44 to the side edges of bag 10, while the top edge 33 and bottom edge 34 are left unattached, as shown in Figs. 3 and 4.